

U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE, SPACE, AND TECHNOLOGY

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September 21, 2011

The Honorable Jane Lubchenco
Undersecretary, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration
U.S. Department of Commerce
1401 Constitution Avenue N.W.
Washington, DC 20230

Dear Administrator Lubchenco:

I write in response to your September 14, 2011 letter concerning my ongoing request for information and documents pertaining to the establishment of a NOAA climate service.

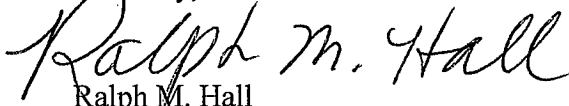
While I acknowledge your efforts to provide some materials relative to this request to the Committee, I am increasingly frustrated with the delays in delivery of information and documents I have asked for. Despite repeated assurances from you that this issue remains a top priority, over six months have elapsed since my original request, and the Committee has yet to receive a complete production of documents or even a schedule for completion of delivery. Further, in responding to my most recent letter of September 6, 2011, you failed to respond to at least seven specific questions that were asked (#2a – 2f, and #5). Please provide a response to those questions as soon as possible, but no later than September 28, 2011.

Additionally, this letter serves as notice to you that I have initiated a formal Committee investigation of activities surrounding establishment of a NOAA climate service in an effort to ensure timely and informed decision-making on this critical agency policy issue. We will follow up with your staff as appropriate in the coming days.

In the meantime, I hope and expect you and your team to complete its document production effort as soon as possible, and I look forward to hearing from you regarding the unanswered questions in my letter of September 6, 2011.

If you have any questions regarding this letter please contact Mr. Tom Hammond with the Subcommittee on Investigations and Oversight at (202) 225-6371, or Ms. Tara Rothschild with the Subcommittee on Energy and Environment at (202) 225-8844.

Sincerely,


Ralph M. Hall
Chairman